

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1703 without my signature.

This measure would increase the membership of the California Transportation Commission (CTC) from 11 members to 13, with additional voting members appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly and the Senate Rules Committee, respectively.

Given the massive investments we have made this year to transportation, I understand the Legislature's desire to have more input in how transportation dollars are spent. This bill, however, represents a fundamental change to the longstanding and historically successful process whereby the Legislature makes appropriations to state transportation funds, such as the State Transportation Improvement Program, and the CTC, appointed solely by the Governor, allocates funding for specific projects. Although I am not adverse to reasonable changes to the composition of the CTC, the fundamental changes proposed by this measure require additional scrutiny and discussion.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger